

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for establishing a secure communications path between a first application on a first server and a second application on a second server, comprising:
  - obtaining host and port addresses of the second server;
  - establishing a secure tunnel from the first server to the second server;
  - generating random host and port addresses at the first server;
  - mapping the random host and port addresses to the host and port addresses of the second server; and
  - connecting the first application to the random local host and port addresses.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first application comprises database application monitoring software.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the second application comprises a database application.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the first application further comprises a Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) protocol configured to communicate with the database application.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the first application comprises a Java program.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the secure tunnel comprises a Secure Shell tunnel.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the host and port addresses of the second server comprise Secure Shell server addresses.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the obtaining the host and port addresses of the second server, establishing the secure tunnel, generating the

random host and port addresses, and mapping the random host and port addresses are performed by a computer program.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the computer program comprises the first application.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising sending a connection request from the first application to the second application.

11. A method of communicating between a first application on a local server and a second application on a remote server, comprising:

establishing a secure tunnel between the local server and the remote server;

mapping a random host and random port on the local server to a secure host and port on the remote server;

transmitting a connection request from the first application on the local server to the random host;

forwarding the connection request from the random port of the random host over the secure tunnel to the secure host on the remote server;

transmitting the connection request from the secure host to the second application; and

communicating between the local and remote applications.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the secure host comprises a Secure Shell server application.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the secure tunnel is established using the Secure Shell server application.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein the establishing, mapping, transmitting and forwarding are performed programmatically.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein the establishing, mapping, transmitting, and forwarding are performed by the first application.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein the connection request comprises a JDBC connection request.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the second application comprises a database application.

18. The method of claim 11 wherein the first application comprises the Java programming language.

19. The method of claim 11 wherein the first application comprises a monitoring application.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the second application comprises a database application.

21. A local server configured to establish communications with a remote server over a secure tunnel, comprising:

a first application; and

a randomly generated host coupled to the first application, the randomly generated host comprising a randomly generated port configured to be coupled to the secure tunnel and to the remote server.

22. The local server of claim 21 wherein the first application is configured to access a second application on the remote server over the secure tunnel.

23. The local server of claim 21 wherein the first application comprises Java monitoring software.

24. The local server of claim 23 wherein the first application is configured to transmit a connection request via the randomly generated host and port to a second application on the remote server.

25. The local server of claim 24 wherein the connection request is a JDBC request.

26. The local server of claim 25 wherein the second application comprises a database application.

27. A local server configured to establish a secure communications session between a local application on the local server and a remote application

on the remote server, comprising:

means for obtaining host and port addresses of the remote server;

means for establishing a secure tunnel between the local server

and the remote server;

means for generating random host and port addresses at the local server;

means for mapping the random host and port addresses to the host and port addresses of the remote server; and

means for connecting the local application to the random host and port addresses.

28. Computer readable media embodying a program of instructions executable by a computer program to perform a method of establishing communications between a first application on a first server and a second application on a second server, the method comprising:

obtaining host and port addresses of the second server;

establishing a secure tunnel from the first server to the second server;

generating random host and port addresses at the first server;

mapping the random host and port addresses to the host and port addresses of the second server; and

connecting the first application to the random local host and port addresses.